

REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated November 26, 2004, has been received, and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-22 are pending.

The Specification has been amended to correct a typographical error that was noted.

The indication of substantive allowability of claims 2-7 and 10-17 is noted with appreciation. Since, however, it is believed that the other claims pending in this Application define patentably over the prior art, the allowable claims have been retained in dependent form.

The rejection of claims 1, 8, 9 and 18-22 as being anticipated by Prus is respectfully traversed for the reason that each of these claims, and particularly each of independent claims 1 and 9, defines a device that is not disclosed in the applied reference. To clarify the record, please note that the applied reference issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,592,054 on July 15, 2003.

The present invention is directed to a spraying bowl (application claim 1) and to a device for spraying coating product comprising such a bowl (application claim 9) wherein there are provided means for a magnetic coupling that produce

a magnetic coupling effort that has a radial component with respect to the axis of rotation of the bowl. Such a means is simply not disclosed in the applied reference.

The disclosure of the applied reference makes absolutely clear that the only effort, or force, provided by the coupling means thereof extends parallel to the axis of rotation of the bowl. This is clearly indicated by the arrows F_3 shown in Figure 2 of the reference drawing, which arrows represent the direction of the attraction effort provided by the magnetic coupling. Specification, column 4, lines 37-49. Moreover, the configuration, i.e. the shape and dimensions, of soft iron ring 2 and magnet 4 disclosed in the reference are such that it is impossible to produce a magnetic coupling effort having a radial component.

Thus, the applied reference explicitly discloses a magnetic coupling arrangement that produces only an axial force, having no radial component, and the disclosed elements of the magnetic coupling are incapable of producing a magnetic coupling effort having a radial component. Under these circumstances, it is impossible to comprehend how this reference can be interpreted as disclosing a magnetic coupling producing an effort that has a radial component with respect

to the axis of rotation of the bowl, as explicitly recited in each of independent claims 1 and 9.

It is noted that the explanation of the rejection of these claims includes the statement that "the magnetic coupling effort obtained capable of having a radial component..." The significance of the term "capable" in that statement is not readily apparent. One would assume that the effort produced by a magnet coupling structure would either have a radial component or would not. In the present case, as already noted above, the radial coupling structure is incapable of producing a magnetic coupling effort having a radial component.

Therefore, specific exception is taken to the assertion that the magnetic coupling disclosed in the reference is capable of having a radial component and if this rejection is repeated, the Examiner is respectfully asked to clarify how this is possible.

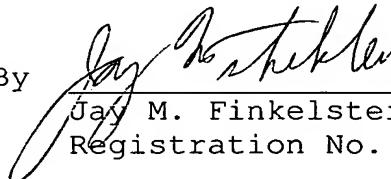
In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the prior art rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, that claims 1, 8, 9 and 18-22 be allowed, along with claims 2-7 and 10-17, and that the Application be found in allowable condition.

Appln. No. 10/661,776
Amd. dated February 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 26, 2004

If the above amendment should now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By 

Jay M. Finkelstein
Registration No. 21,082

JMF:dtb
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
G:\BN\L\lav1\merabet1A\pto\AMD 25FEB05.doc